

**State of California
Department of Mental Health**

REQUEST FOR APPLICATION

Supportive Housing Initiative Act (SHIA) for SFY 2001-2002

GRANT # SHIA2001-01

October 30, 2001

1. **Q:** If an eligible housing project were to request, and receive, SHIA support services funds to provide employment related services, would non-residents of the housing project be eligible to receive those same services if they were otherwise SHIA eligible?

A: We assume, based on the wording of this question, that the project envisions including individuals in scattered site housing as well as those in a defined housing project. Those tenants living in the scattered site portion of the proposed project (e.g. non-residents of the site-specific housing project) would be eligible to receive employment services funded by the SHIA program if they meet all of the following conditions:

- They are included in the project's target population, as described in the application narrative.
- They are permanently housed in scattered site housing.
- The application narrative describes the scattered site housing, including evidence of site control, and how the project will continue to ensure housing for these tenants for the duration of the project.
- The application narrative describes how the scattered site tenants will receive the services.

2. **Q:** San Joaquin County currently has an agreement with an owner for exclusive use of a thirty unit apartment complex as permanent housing for people with mental health disabilities; some support services are provided but more attention is needed to assist residents access employment opportunities. Although rents on these units are below prevailing market rates, they are above the HUD standard of 30% on tenant income. Would this housing project, with its current rent structure, be eligible for SHIA support services only funds?

A: As described, this project would be eligible for services funding, but would not be eligible for rental subsidies.

3. **Q:** Central Valley Housing, in partnership with San Joaquin County Mental Health, has a current application under consideration for HUD Supportive Housing Program for Permanent Housing for People with Disabilities funds that would allow for the purchase of eight single family properties. Since the purchase of the houses is dependent upon the HUD award, we would not be able to demonstrate site control until after HUD announces its awards, which is normally after the closing date for this round of SHIA funds. SHIA funds would be used to provide additional support services for people who move into these homes. Is it possible to apply for a SHIA project, and be considered for SHIA funding, conditional upon demonstrating site control after the HUD awards are announced and prior to any SHIA funds being disbursed?

A: You do not need to purchase the houses to demonstrate site control. You can use option or purchase agreements for this purpose. A copy of the executed agreements must be included in the application. Prior to receiving any grant funds, you will be required to submit evidence that you have purchased the houses.

4. **Q:** We are currently paying the salary of one of our case-managers for an existing supportive housing project from grant funds which are not designated for this position. Additionally, the funds we have used for this supportive housing service will no longer be available. Can SHIA be requested to fund this case-management position?

A: Yes. Please provide details within the narrative that explain the loss of funding, including the date the funding will expire.

5. **Q:** If a county is applying as a lead agency for a number of projects for subsidies only, can the number of years of subsidy vary for each project (e.g., one project has 10 years of subsidy, another 5, another 3), or must the number of subsidy years be the same?

A: The rental subsidies for each project within a local jurisdiction application do not need to be requested for the same length of time.

6. **Q:** Must all copies be tabbed as well as the original?

A: Yes.